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UNCLAS ASUNCION 001116

SIPDIS

SENSITIVE

STATE FOR U/S DOBRIANSKY  
STATE PLEASE PASS TO USAID LAC/AA  
NSC FOR SUE CRONIN  
SOUTHCOM FOR POLAD DAN JOHNSON

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: TBIO ECON PREL SOCI PA KSTH WHO

SUBJECT: MORE FROM PARAGUAY ON ADDRESSING THE THREAT OF  
AVIAN INFLUENZA

REF: A. ASUNCION 1109

1B. STATE 153802

¶1. (SBU) On 9/2, the MFA advised PolOff that the GOP has designated the Ministry of Health's Director of Epidemiology, Wilma Baswaldo, tel: 595-21-203-998, as the GOP's senior-level point of contact with respect to avian influenza. Dr. Carmen Portillo, also of the Ministry of Health, leads the avian influenza task force mentioned in ref ¶A.

¶2. (U) The MFA further advised that, in November, Paraguay would host a Southern Cone avian influenza conference in Asuncion. Dr. Octavio Oliva of the Pan-American Health Organization is expected to attend the conference. Post will report additional details, septel, as they become available.

KEANE